

The Buckeye Airlifter



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Global Reach, Global Power

179th Airlift Wing

179th chaplains section hosts divine tour

Story and photo by
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The 179th Airlift Wing was truly blessed by the presence of 45 chaplains on Saturday of the May drill.

The chaplains, ministers, priests, pastors and rabbis came from all across Ohio to tour the unit, take a C-130 ride and visit with their followers who are in the Guard.

The base chaplain section worked on this day for months arranging all the details to host these holy visitors.

"They are our partners in ministry," said Lt. Col. Keith Bohley, chief chaplain. "These chaplains take care of our members when they are away from the Guard."

The day started with a welcome from Col. Rich Green, base commander followed by the chaplains dividing into two groups for the other activities. The first group went straight to the flight line where they were given an ops brief

and then boarded a C-130 for a flyover of the local area. The second group was led on a walking tour of various unit sections to include aerial port, civil



Lt. Dave Shirley talks with a local minister before a C-130 flight.

engineering, the clinic and of course, the chapel.

Members of the 179th assisted the chaplain's office by acting as tour guides and hosts for the day.

Master Sgt. Mike Schaeffer brought six chaplains with him for the tour with one being his father and another being his father-in-law.

"This gives the pastors a chance to see what their members do here," Schaeffer said. "It is good community outreach. They make great spokespeople for the Guard."

The day concluded with lunch in the dining facility and the chaplains being able to visit their followers in their work areas.

Pastor Monty Trammel of the Gospel Baptist Church in Galion said he was thrilled to be a part of the day.

"My father is a commercial pilot and I always see the C-130's fly over my house," Trammel said. "This gives us a great appreciation for where are members are in the world."

Best advice for now is carpe diem

1Lt. Dave Shirley
Chaplains Section

Today is a gift. That's right...today.

Once you receive a gift, the giver no longer controls what you do with it. It's yours to use as you please, no strings attached.

Today, you can be mean or you can be nice. Today, you can spend money or you can save money. Today, you can listen to others or ignore others.

Today, you can cheat or be fair. Today, you can give or you can seek to get. Today, you can work hard or you can loaf around. Today, you can lie or you can tell the truth.

Today, you can overeat or be satisfied with a reasonable portion. Today, you can encourage someone or discourage someone. Today, you can lose heart or you can be courageous. Today, you can worry or you can relax.

Today, you can hurry or you can be patient. Today, you can be reasonable or unreasonable. Today, you can love or you can hate. Today, you can start over or continue doing the same old things.

Today, you can stand against adversity or be crushed by it. Today, you can smile or you can frown. Today, you can laugh or cry. Today, you can hope or doubt. Today you can repair

what is broken or leave it to decay.

Today, you can look to the future or worry about the past. Today, you can be disappointed or you can be inspired. Today, you can admire yourself or you can put yourself down.

Today, you can believe in your worth or see your self as worthless. Today you can ... or.... it's your choice.

When a person says to you, "Have a good day," they have no way of making that happen for you. Today, it's up to you to make it a good day.

You can't redo yesterday and you really don't know what will happen tomorrow. Today is your day. It's in your hands now. What will you do with it?

2002: The Year of Diversity